



University Health Care
Hospitals & Clinics

November 10, 2006

Wu Xu, Ph.D
Director
Office of Health Care Statistics
Center for Health Data
PO Box 144004
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Dr. Xu:

In strict compliance with published coding guidelines, the University Health Care included the temporary shaping of the baby's head through the birth process, known as "molding", as a birth injury. The 2003-2005 observed rate of birth injuries in this report includes "molding" as a birth injury. Molding accounted for 96% of birth injuries in 2003. In 2004, the coding guidelines specifically excluded molding as a birth injury. Excluding all cases of molding from the 2003-2005 data gives a birth injury rate of 4.5 per 1000.

Sincerely,

Gordon Crabtree
CEO (Interim) / CFO
University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics
University Health Care

